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We claim:

- 5 1. A compound containing carbodiimide units and carboxyl or carboxylate groups (compound V), derived from
- 10 a) aliphatic or araliphatic C<sub>4</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> polyisocyanates (component a)
- 15 b) amino carboxylic acids or amino carboxylic salts (component b) and
- 20 c) if desired, further compounds which carry groups able to react with isocyanate groups in an addition reaction (component c)
- d) if desired, other isocyanates (component d),
- 20 the carbodiimide units deriving essentially exclusively from the isocyanate groups of component (a).
- 25 2. A compound (V) as claimed in claim 1, containing from 200 to 2000 mmol/kg of carboxyl or carboxylate groups, based on the weight of the compound.
- 30 3. A compound (V) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein component (a) comprises hexamethylene diisocyanate or 1,3-bis(1-methyl-1-isocyanatoethyl)benzene.
- 35 4. A compound (V) as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the amino carboxylic acids and/or amino carboxylic salts comprise α- or β-amino carboxylic acids, or the Michael adducts of diprimary diamines with α,β-unsaturated carboxylic acids or carboxylic salts.
- 40 5. A compound (V) as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein component (c) comprises aromatic compounds, aliphatic compounds or araliphatic compounds, the araliphatic compounds carrying polyalkylene oxide groups if desired, said compounds having 1 to 20 carbon atoms (not including the carbon atoms of the polyalkylene oxide groups) and having at least one functional group selected from the group consisting of
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~~secondary amino group, primary amino group and alcoholic hydroxyl group.~~

- 5 6. A process for preparing a compound (V) as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, which comprises
- 10 I. preparing carbodiimides having terminal isocyanate groups by carbodiimidizing some of the isocyanate groups of component (a), and
- 15 II. reacting the isocyanato-terminal compounds prepared in step I with component (b) and, if desired, with components (c) and (d).
- 20 7. A mixture of a compound (V) as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5 and an aqueous dispersion comprising a polymer (P).
- 25 8. A mixture as claimed in claim 7, wherein the polymer (P) carries carboxyl groups.
- 30 9. A mixture as claimed in claim 7, wherein polymer (P) comprises a polyurethane (PII) synthesized from
- 35 IIIa) diisocyanates having 4 to 30 carbon atoms,
- IIIb) diols of which
- 40 IIIb1) from 10 to 100 mol%, based on the total amount of the diols (IIIb), have a molecular weight of from 500 to 5000, and
- 45 IIIb2) from 0 to 90 mol%, based on the total amount of the diols (IIIb), have a molecular weight of from 60 to 500 g/mol,
- 40 IIIc) monomers different than the monomers (IIa) and (IIb) and containing at least one isocyanate group or at least one isocyanate-reactive group, and further carrying at least one hydrophilic group or potentially hydrophilic group, thereby rendering the polyurethanes dispersible in water,
- 45 IIId) if desired, further polyfunctional compounds different than the monomers (IIa) to (IIIc) and having reactive groups which comprise alcoholic hydroxyl groups, primary or secondary

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amino groups or isocyanate groups, and

IIe) if desired, monofunctional compounds different than the monomers (IIa) to (IId) and having a reactive group which comprises an alcoholic hydroxyl group, a primary or secondary amino group or an isocyanate group.

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10. A mixture as claimed in claim 7, wherein polymer (P) comprises a polymer (PIII) synthesized from

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IIIa) from 30 to 99.9% by weight of principal monomers selected from C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> alkyl(meth)acrylates, vinyl esters of carboxylic acids containing up to 20 carbon atoms, vinylaromatic compounds having up to 20 carbon atoms, ethylenically unsaturated nitriles, vinyl halides, and aliphatic hydrocarbons having 2 to 8 carbon atoms and 1 or 2 double bonds,

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IIIb) from 0 to 20% by weight of a carboxylic acid having one olefinic double bond, and

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IIIc) from 0 to 20% by weight of free-radically polymerizable monomers different than (IIIa) and (IIIb).

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11. An article adhesively bonded or coated with a mixture as claimed in any of claims 7 to 9, or a textile impregnated with said mixture.

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**Carbodiimides with carboxyl or carboxylate groups****Abstract****5**

Compounds containing carbodiimide units and carboxyl or carboxylate groups (compounds V), derived from

**a) aliphatic or araliphatic C<sub>4</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> polyisocyanates (component 10 a)**

**b) amino carboxylic acids or amino carboxylic salts (component b) and**

**15 c) if desired, further compounds which carry groups able to react with isocyanate groups in an addition reaction (component c)**

**d) if desired, other isocyanates (component d),**

**20 the carbodiimide units deriving essentially exclusively from the isocyanate groups of component (a).**

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